IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Marianne M. FIGUERIA et al.

Serial No.: 09 998,631

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

December 3, 2001

Examiner:

For:

METHYLOGROPHIC BACTERIUM FOR THE PRODUCTION OF

RECOMBINANT PROTEINS AND OTHER PRODUCTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

In response to the Office Letter dated May 5, 2002 in connection with the aboveidentified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE DISCLOSURE

Please cancel paragraph [0052] of the specification and substitute therefore the following paragraph:

In vitro DNA manipulation for cloning in E. coli was performed as described by Sambrook et al. [Sambrook et al. (1989) Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY]. The strategy used to create different GFP-carrying plasmids is represented in Fig. 1. The set of primers used were: (a) GFP/BamHL2 (5'-GAA TCG GGA TCC TCA GTT GTA CAG TTC ATC CAT GC-3'; BamHI restriction site underlined; SEQ ID NO:1) and RBS/Pst1.2 (5'-AAC AAA CTG CAG AAT AAT TTT GTT TAA CTT TAA GAA GG-3'; Pst1 restriction site underlined; SEQ ID NO:2); and (b) RBS/MluI (5'-CAC GAC GCG TTG AAA TAA TTT TGT TTA ACT TTA AGA AGG-3', MluI restriction site underlined; SEQ ID NO:3) and GFP/XhaI (5'-